



PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES October 7, 2004

Attendees:

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members

		Committee Membership
Lynn Crump, Chair	School Board	Future Visions Committee Greenway Advocacy
Dennis Harding, Vice Chair	Dale District	Budget Committee Athletics Committee Budget
Jack Griffin	Bermuda District	Future Visions Committee
Tim Mick	Bermuda District	Chair, Budget Committee Athletics Activities
Frank McDavid	Clover Hill District	Chair, Greenways Advocacy
Terry Minor	Clover Hill District	Budget, Athletics Activities
Tim Russell	Matoaca District	Greenways Advocacy Budget, Athletics Activities
Hadi YazdanPanah	Midlothian District	Athletics Activities, Future Visions

Absent:

Bob Terrell	Dale District	Chair, Athletics Activities Future Visions
Ron Maxey	Midlothian District	Chair, Future Visions Greenways Advocacy
Earl Gee	Matoaca District	Budget, Future Visions

Parks and Recreation Staff

Mike Golden, Director * Budget Committee Liaison
 Lynell McClinton, Chief of Finance * Budget Committee Liaison
 Phil Innis, Assistant Director * Athletics Activities and Future Visions Liaison
 Bruce Dove, Assistant Director * Future Visions Committee Liaison
 Mark Askin, Chief of Parks
 Stuart Connock, Jr., Chief of Parks Design and Construction
 Jennifer Wampler, Planner, * Greenways Advocacy Committee Liaison
 Bill Carlson, Athletics Manager * Athletics Activities Liaison
 Rebecca Parker, Secretary

2004 Standing Committees

Budget	Future Visions	Athletics Activities	Greenway Advocacy
Tim Mick, Chair	Ron Maxey, Chair	Bob Terrell, Chair	Frank McDavid, Chair
Terry Minor	Bob Terrell	Terry Minor	Ron Maxey
Dennis Harding	Lynn Crump	Dennis Harding	Lynn Crump
Earl Gee	Earl Gee	Tim Russell	Tim Russell
Tim Russell	Hadi YazdanPanah	Tim Mick	
	Jack Griffin	Hadi YazdanPanah	

Background Checks Sub-Committee

Tim Mick, Chair
Hadi YazdanPanah
Jack Griffin

Citizens to Speak on Unscheduled Matters:

Heather Barrar	GIG – Co-sponsorship
Mike Hairfield	CQL
Cathy Kirk	Task Force for Responsible Growth
Marleen Durfee	Task Force for Responsible Growth

I. Chair, Lynn Crump called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Invocation: Lynn Crump asked Tim Mick to lead the invocation. Tim asked for guidance and protection for our troops in harms way.

III. Approval of Minutes:

Tim Mick made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Dennis Harding seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous vote.

IV. Changes to Agenda: None

V. Parks and Recreation Director's Remarks:

Mike discussed the recent press conference on the easement for the Brown & Williamson conservation site that was reported in the *Progress Index* and the *Richmond Times Dispatch*. *The Friends of Chesterfield's Riverfront*, a non-profit organization, helped to negotiate the donation of the 263 acres by the Brown and Williamson Tobacco Corp. and requested a conservation easement on this acreage from the County. This easement ensures that the property is kept in a natural state with only passive recreation planned. Lynn confirmed that the protective easement had been filed in Chesterfield Circuit Court.

VI. Committee Reports:

Budget Committee:

Tim Mick advised that the Committee had met today at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the adult concession at Warbro, as requested by Scott Southworth, Deputy Commissioner of ASA, at the September PRAC meeting. The Committee concluded that since the contract for this concession was valid for two more years, all items that were discussed would have to be deferred to a later date.

The CSA group is willing to work with all tournament and league groups. Any changes will need to be made to the contract when it is renewed.

Future Visions Committee:

Hall of Fame Monuments

Ron Maxey had asked Mike Golden and Phil Innis to report for this Committee, in his absence. Mike said that the *Hall of Fame* dedication ceremony was held today for Ray Hevener, at R. Garland Dodd Park. Dickie King, Lynn Crump, Tim Mick, and Richard Worcester attended the ceremony. Lynn Crump noted how much Mr. Hevener appreciated the small keepsake monument designed by Stuart Connock.

Phil outlined the procedures followed for the 2004 *Hall of Fame* nominations and ceremony:

- The 2004 nominations were to be accepted through December 15, 2003; however, this was extended to January 15, 2003.
- Candidates were to be evaluated in 2004 by PRAC and final nominations sent to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
- Dedications were planned for spring 2004.

Dennis Harding said a spring ceremony should be the goal for 2005. Lynn said that nominations should be accepted through January, since the last 2004 dedication ceremony would take place December 1, at 3:00 p.m., at Harry G. Daniels Park - Iron Bridge.

Phil invited Commission members to represent PRAC at the ceremonies. Frank McDavid said he was familiar with the late Pat Burkes' accomplishments and would be happy to attend her dedication ceremony on October 18 at 5:00 p.m. Tim Mick and Tim Russell said they plan to attend the Matoaca ceremony honoring Ralph Bolling on October 9. Richard Worcester and Lynn Crump will be at the October 12 ceremony at Rockwood Park honoring Jose Sanchez. The PRAC representative is asked to focus their remarks on the monument and the purpose of the monument. Other speakers are prepared to discuss the individuals being honored.

Lynn confirmed recommendations for procedures and nominations for the 2005 Hall of Fame:

- Nominations will be solicited and accepted through January 2005.
- The public will be notified about the nomination process and information placed in the next Parks and Recreation publication - to be distributed the week before Christmas 2004. The information/application will also be placed on the Parks and Recreation website.
- The Future Visions Committee would then review the nominations in January and February and send the final nominations to the Board of Supervisors.

- The ceremony will be scheduled in the spring of 2005, at a regular Board of Supervisors meeting.
- After the Board of Supervisors approval and the nomination ceremony, Parks and Recreation will have names inscribed on the monuments.

Phil advised that the news media attended the ceremony for Ray Hevener and this should generate some public interest.

Jack Griffin confirmed that these recommendations agreed with those of the Future Vision's Committee- that this year (2004), the monuments were being dedicated as well as the individuals being honored, so the ceremonies were held separately. In 2005, one ceremony would be held at a regular Board of Supervisors meeting and Parks & Recreation would add honorees names to the monuments. Tim Mick added that the recipients would also receive a Resolution and the small keepsake monument.

Naming of the Bird Athletic Complex

Mike discussed the request made by groups represented by Dane Lewis, at the September PRAC meeting, to name the Bird Athletic Complex after Mildred Burrell. Informal discussions with some of the Board of Supervisors members were positive. A meeting with Mr. Lewis is scheduled on October 19 to discuss this issue and the suggestion by Mr. Lewis to hold a fund-raising tournament.

Athletic Activities Committee

Decline in Youth Sports Participation

Dennis Harding asked Mike Golden to discuss the September 20 meeting that was held at Bensley Community Center to begin the process of finding reasons/solutions for the decline in youth sports participation in the Dale/Bermuda Districts. Mike said the meeting was informative and approximately twenty-five participants attended including Sherman Litton, Dickie King, Kelly Miller, Dennis Harding, Tim Mick, school representatives, police representatives, athletic league representatives and Parks and Recreation representatives. Mr. Miller requested a survey to find out what youth sports the children and parents in these districts wanted to have available. Lynell McClinton is developing this survey. Lynn asked that the survey be presented to PRAC before it is sent out. Mike said a professional that develops surveys has suggested getting focus groups together to gain their input for the survey. Another suggestion that came from the meeting discussions was for a Pilot Program to be developed. Phil Innis and Bill Carlson are working to develop a pilot basketball program at Bensley Mike said results of these activities will be reported to the meeting participants. Dennis Harding reported that Dickie King and Kelly Miller were committed to helping to solve this problem. A list of community leaders and a strategy on how to reach these leaders is being developed. Dennis reminded the members that the decline had taken place over a period of time and would not be corrected quickly. Frank McDavid requested that a copy of the minutes from this meeting be mailed to PRAC members.

Greenways Committee

Frank McDavid reported on the meeting that was held today at 5:00 p.m., at Parks and Recreation conference room. There were eleven attendees including Mike Golden, Jennifer Wampler, Stuart Connock, Bruce Dove and seven members from the American Cancer Society (staff members and volunteers). The focus of the meeting was to determine if it was feasible to combine two *Relay for Life*

events held at the James River High School and the L.C. Bird High School into one event to be held at the Government Complex/Fairgrounds. Another meeting will take place on Thursday, November 4, at 5:00 p.m. at Parks and Recreation. A representative from the Fire Department and Police Department will be invited to attend this meeting. The goal is to hold the combined event the first weekend in June. Frank stressed that this would be a win-win situation for Chesterfield Greenways and a major charitable group.

Frank McDavid introduced a guest speaker, Heather Barrar:

Heather Barrar, Vice-Chair of Green Infrastructure Group (GIG)

Ms. Barrar said she was seeking the Advisory Commission's approval of co-sponsorship for GIG. Ms. Barrar said that the group's by-laws and application were reviewed by Parks and Recreation. Ms. Barrar read the GIG mission statement:

Promoting green infrastructure in Chesterfield County to establish a landscape for future generations that functions as well or better than it does today.

Ms. Barrar said that field trips were being organized to promote trails and GIG is in the process of applying for a Community Agency funding grant. GIG had a booth at the County Fair and there was a lot of public interest in greenways. An open house is planned for January at the library. Phil Innis reported that staff had reviewed their application and found everything in order and co-sponsorship was recommended.

Frank McDavid made the motion to endorse and sponsor the Greenways Infrastructure Group. Dennis Harding seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed with unanimous vote.

Background Checks Committee

Tim Mick advised that a letter was sent to the Board of Supervisors advising them of the positive response from all the groups in Chesterfield County. The issue is now with the Board of Supervisors and they have been requested to set a public hearing in November. Tim thanked Parks and Recreation for all the work on this important issue.

Tim Mick moved to dissolve the Committee as soon as the Board of Supervisors endorses the program. Chair, Lynn Crump concurred.

VII. Hearing of Citizens on Unscheduled Matters

Mike Hairfield, Commissioner of CQL

Mr. Hairfield said that CQL had met in the Wagner Building on Tuesday's for sixteen years and in 2005 they were advised they could not have this time slot due to a group being moved to the Wagner Building from Room 502. Mike Golden said he would check into this issue.

Cathy Kirk, President, Task Force for Responsible Growth

Ms. Kirk introduced her group as a non-profit organization incorporated in March 2004. Marleen Durfee, the executive director of the Task Force was also introduced. Their Board of Directors includes one Director from each district. The purpose of the organization is to preserve and enhance the quality of life and work toward responsible growth – she stressed they were not anti-growth but were concerned with land use and planning that served the community. They seek to accomplish this mission through public and private partnerships. Their focus is to promote a County-wide Greenways organization.

Ms. Kirk said she would like to obtain co-sponsorship information and return at a later date. The group is co-sponsoring a community image survey with the Sierra Club. Ms. Kirk said she would like Mr. Johnson Brown, who is working with the survey, to come to PRAC so that members could participate in this survey. Tim Mick confirmed that this Group was coordinating their efforts with GIG.

VIII. Old Business:

2004 Bond Referendum

Mike Golden introduced Carl Chafin (formerly with the School Board) and Tom Miller, a Committee member of citizens promoting the School Bond Referendum and Rob Dawson with the Fire Department, who were present to answer questions. Mike narrated the County's 2004 *Bond Referendum PowerPoint Presentation*. Mike stressed that the primary purpose of this presentation is to educate the public. Mike pointed out some of the recognition received by Chesterfield County: the AAA Bond Rating; the School System recognized in the top 14% in the nation, with a 79% approval rating from the public; the Library System has also received national recognition. The increase in population and the resulting need for services (roads, schools, parks, libraries, fire stations, etc.) is the major reason for this Bond Referendum. The amount of General Obligation Bond money for Parks and Recreation is \$19,674,700, for FY 2005-2011. The total amount of General Obligation Bond money is \$341,745,000 for FY 2005-2011. Mike explained that projects are also funded by other sources such as grant funds and proffers.

Tim Russell asked Rob Dawson the approximate cost of the Fire Station at Harrowgate Road and Route 1. Mr. Dawson said that costs for all except personnel was approximately \$7-million.

Dennis Harding asked if the threat of terrorists had caused an increase in the budget for Public Safety. Rob Dawson said that the necessary budget increases were primarily funded by FEMA grants.

Dennis Harding asked for a timeline for the funds to be made available. Mike said the election and vote on the Referendum is November 2. The County will borrow the funds over a period of seven years. A portion of the funds is to be borrowed in January 2005. Many of the Parks and Recreation projects will take eighteen months to complete. Improvement projects are funded in all seven years. School improvement projects will be funded in six of the seven years.

Mr. Miller discussed the new Clover Hill High School that will be in operation in 2009 -2011. Mr. Miller's understanding is that the old school is not in compliance with the County Plan and a new location is needed because of traffic congestion in this area. The road frontage will be sold for business

use and hopefully, the money from the sale put back into the school system. There has been discussion about retaining the athletic fields and stadium at the old Clover Hill High School. The idea behind retaining the fields and stadium is to keep the buffer between new businesses and the existing neighborhood. He suggested that anyone interested in retaining the athletic fields or the gym should call their supervisor.

Lynn suggested that PRAC draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors this year. Lynn requested that the minutes reflect the need to draft a letter concerning salvage of the gymnasium and the athletic fields and stadium at the old Clover Hill High School and the need for indoor basketball facilities.

IX. New Business:

Athletic Tournament Fees

Mike Golden advised that some groups have requested a waiver of fees. Lynn asked the Athletic Activities Committee to review this request.

X. Reports:

Construction Status Report

Stuart Connock provided the Construction Status Report.

Falling Creek

Lynn asked if the damage sustained at Falling Creek during Hurricane Gaston would affect any Parks and Recreation work at this site. Stuart said on a positive note, the Hurricane had exposed some remnants of the historic ironworks, however; the Civil War era bridge had been severely damaged and VDOT is reviewing plans for a partial restoration.

Dutch Gap Trail

Stuart advised that the final design package was submitted to purchasing.

VSU Trail

Lynn asked about the links needed to complete a continual trail. Stuart said that there was approximately a three-mile gap in the trail between VSU and the Appomattox Canoe Launch project site.

Co-sponsored Agreements

Phil advised that a final report would be submitted at the end of the year. All but two leagues have submitted their information.

Phil advised that co-sponsorship forms could be obtained by calling his office.

XI. Public Hearing:

Indoor Facility Assignments

Lynn opened the public hearing on Indoor Facility Assignments. There were no speakers to address this issue.

Bill Carlson asked the Commission to approve the indoor facility assignments. Tim Mick made a motion to approve the assignments. Frank McDavid seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous vote. Lynn closed the public hearing.

XII. Agenda Items for Thursday, November 04, 2004:

- Commission requested by Tim Russell to discuss ways the County can encourage private entities to establish indoor/outdoor facilities.
- Discuss Letter to Board of Supervisors about the Future of Clover Hill High School Property
- Athletics Committee:
 - PRAC to review the Sports Manual (privacy issue/background checks added) (deadline for manual is 1st week in December)
 - Economic Development Athletic Tournament Fee Waivers
- Future Visions Committee
 - Field Naming at L.C. Bird

XIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Rebecca Parker

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 04, 2004, at Central Library.
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